GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:155
ANSWERED ON:20.11.2000
REQUIREMENT OF SEEDS
RAMJI LAL SUMAN;SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any estimate has been made by the Government in regard to the quantum of annual requirement of seeds in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the source through which the said requirement is met in the country;

(d) whether the Government have formulated any action plan to overcome the dependence on import so as to meet the said requirement; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD Y. NAIK)

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. As per the information gathered from State Governments, therequirement of certified and quality seed for the year 2000-2001 is 96,71,306 quintals.

(c): The requirement of seed is met through two Central Seeds Corporations and 13 State Seeds Corporations, State Departments of Agriculture, State Seed Farms, Cooperative Institutions, private seed companies etc.

(d) & (e): The country is not dependant on imports to met the seed requirement. Import constitutes a very meager portion of certified/quality seed distributed in the country. The question of dependence on import does not arise because as per existing policy bulk import of any seed may be permitted only for two years within which time the concerned seed company must develop the required production capacity within the country.

In order to increase the availability of certified/quality seed and to increase the Seed Replacement Rate (SRR), the Government of India provides assistance to State Governments for production of seeds and planting material under various crop development schemes, such as Integrated Cereal Development Porgramme on Rice −based Cropping System Areas (ICDP-Rice), Integrated Cereal Development Programme on Wheat-based Cropping System Areas (ICDP-Wheat), Integrated Development Programme for Coarse Cereals, Accelerated Maize Development Programme, National Pulse Development Programme, Oilseeds Production Programme, Special Jute Development Programme, Intensive Cotton Development Programme, Sustainable Development of Sugarcane-based Cropping System, Integrated Development of Vegetable including Root and Tuber Crops, Integrated Development of Tropical, Temperate and Arid Fruits, Coconut Development Programme, Spices Development Programme and Cashew Development Programme.